



Office of Public Instruction  
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## Hearing Screening Policies and Procedures

Hearing Screening is considered a regular education activity. In accord with the Montana Hearing Conservation Program guidelines, all students in grades Kindergarten, 1, and 9 or 10 are mandated to be screened. A school district may choose to limit screening to these grades or may include additional grades. A district may also choose to include screening all students new to the district and/or may choose to include students referred for screening by teachers or parents, or students with a history of hearing loss. In these cases, written parent permission is not needed.

A district may not make a policy which directs the screening of special education students (for example, screen only new students who have an individualized education program (IEP) or all students who have an IEP).

Screening procedures should be publicized by the school district. Publication may include, for example, the school handbook, school calendar, a newsletter, an ad in the local paper, or a letter to parents.

Written parent permission must always be obtained prior to conducting:

- Hearing screening when it is a part of a special education eligibility determination evaluation under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- Hearing evaluation procedures.

Montana's Hearing Conservation Program Guidelines can be found at:

<http://www.opi.state.mt.us/PDF/SpecED/HearConservGuide.pdf>